

Change to PIP scoring methodology

Texas's external quality review organization (EQRO) is charged by CMS with validating PIPs. The EQRO is changing the way in which PIPs are scored to better capture the quality of the PIPs. While the evaluation criteria will not change, the new approach weights the components that are considered more important to a strong PIP (critical components). These evaluation criteria will be considered critical components:

Critical Component	Evaluation Criteria
1.3	Did the health plan describe how the issue affects member health, functional status, or member/provider satisfaction?
2.1	Is/are the study question(s) stated in the format, "Does doing X result in Y"?
3.1	Did the health plan clearly define the target population the PIP addresses?
3.2	Did the health plan describe inclusion and exclusion criteria?
4.1	Does the study have objective and clearly defined, measurable indicators?
4.2	Does each study indicator have available and valid data which can be collected?
4.3	Are indicators appropriate, valid, and reliable measures of changes in: health status, functional status, member satisfaction, or processes of care reflecting the objectives of the PIP?
4.4	Is the targeted goal for improvement appropriate?
5A.1	If a sample is used, are sound sampling and data collection methods for measures included in the plan?
5B.1	If a sample is used, are sound sampling and data collection methods for interventions included in the plan?
6.1	Does the data collection plan clearly specify what data will be collected and from which sources?
6.4	Does the health plan describe the reliability and validity of the data collection instruments?
7A.2	Does the health plan describe how the root cause analysis was used to develop interventions?
7B.1.3	Does each intervention address barrier(s) from the root cause analysis?
7B.1.4	Are interventions appropriate for the targeted group?
7B.1.7	Are vehicles of communication reasonable?
8.1	Was the analysis of findings performed according to the data analysis plan?
8.4	Does the health plan identify and describe factors that may have influenced results, such as differences in baseline and repeat measurements, differences in response rates, differences in data collection measures, etc.?
9A.1.2	Were interventions appropriate for the targeted group?
9A.1.3	Did interventions have adequate reach?

These critical components will count toward 50% of the overall PIP score and all other evaluation criteria will count toward the remaining 50%. Additionally, the EQRO will determine the validation status (valid, partially valid, or not valid) for each PIP when evaluating the PIP plan and PIP final report using the following methodology:

Met (Score)	Validation Criteria*
<i>Yes</i> (100)	(1) All critical components are <i>Yes</i> and (2) total score is 80 percent or above.
<i>Partial</i> (50)	(1) All critical components are <i>Yes</i> and the total score is 60 to 79 percent or (2) One or more critical components are <i>Partial</i> and the total score is 80 percent or above.
<i>No</i> (0)	(1) All critical components are <i>Yes</i> and the total score is less than 60 percent or (2) One or more critical components are <i>No</i> .

*Components scored as *Not Applicable* or *Not Assessed* (including critical components) are removed from all scoring

These changes will go into effect with the scoring of the 2019 PIPs.